

Year.	Shops.	Rental per annum. Rs.
1096-1097	Toddy shop No. 25 Quilon taluk.	700
Do.	Arrack shop No. 4 Quilon taluk.	155
Do.	Do. No. 2 Kottarakara taluk.	300
Do.	Do. No. 9 Trivandrum taluk.	2,405
Do.	Do. No. 13 Trivandrum taluk.	2,500
1100-1101	Do. No. 14 Quilon taluk.	415
1097-1098	Opium and Ganja shop No. 5 Quilon taluk.	370
Do.	Do. No. 1 Kottarakara taluk.	1,365
Do.	Do. No. 2 Pattanapuram taluk.	500
Do.	Do. No. 4 Do.	435
Do.	Do. No. 2 Kunnattur taluk.	500
Do.	Do. No. 1 Neduvangad taluk.	590
Do.	Do. No. 1 Trivandrum taluk.	5,705
Do.	Do. No. 2 Do.	350

(p) The arrack and toddy shops for 1096-1097 were bid for by him at the close of 1095 when there was no case against him. The opium and ganja shops were purchased by him in 1096 before the detection of the case against him. For 1100-1101 only one arrack shop was given to him, since he was not known to have committed any malpractices relating to arrack.

(4) (a) Yes.

(b) Government have known that there was no reauction.

(c) The shop was confirmed in the name of Mr. Joseph for Rs. 4,200.

Mr. Joseph and the Ganja and Opium Contract.

197. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*) With reference to the answer to interpellation No. 35, asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 22nd Karkatakam 1100, will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:—

(a) when the opium and ganja shop at Quilon was bid for Rs. 3,800 for the year 1100, and when Mr. Joseph, Lakshmivilakan Bungalow, Trivandrum, petitioned that he was prepared to bid for Rs. 4,200, why the Government accepted the recommendation of the Excise Commissioner that the contract should not be given to Mr. Joseph and that it should be confirmed in the name of the original bidder;

(b) from what year has Mr. Joseph been bidding at auction for shops in the Excise Department; whether, since that time, he has made any default and been punished for such default; if he has been punished, when and what punishment he has been awarded;

(c) if Mr. Joseph is running the contracts taken by him without default, why his offer to bid the Quilon shop for a higher amount was declined; and

(d) who is responsible for the loss incurred by accepting the contract at a lower amount, and declining the higher offer contained in the petition forwarded direct to the Government?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (a) The Ag. Excise Commissioner, Mr. K. Govinda Pillai, reported that, having regard to the opium and ganja consumed in the shop, it was not worth more than Rs. 3,900 per annum and that any further increase would not leave a margin of profit to the purchaser who would have to resort to illicit practices, that the offer of a higher amount by Mr. Joseph was due to blind speculation and spite against Mr. Krishna Pillai who offered Rs. 3,900 for it, that Mr. Joseph failed to appear at the auction to bid for the shop and that the shop was not really intended for him but for another to whom it would be undesirable to give it. Mr. Govinda Pillai having for these reasons recommended the rejection of the offer of Mr. Joseph, the shop was given to Mr. Krishna Pillai.

(b) From 1099. He has made no default and he has not been punished.

(c) The Member is referred to the answer to part (a).

(d) There has been no loss by the sale of the shop, because the rental fetched was commensurate with its real value. If a person who has failed to attend an auction subsequently makes a higher offer by a petition out of blind speculation and spite against the purchaser and acting as a tool of an undesirable person, the rejection of such an offer by Government is not a loss.

Irregularity in the sale of the Opium and Ganja shop at Quilon.

198. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): (1) (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the day settled for auctioning the opium and ganja shop at Quilon for the year 1101, and which was notified in the *Government Gazette*, was a holiday?

(b) Was the auction conducted on that day?

(c) If not, what was the next date fixed for the auction?

(d) Has it been notified in the *Government Gazette*?

(e) If not, why?

(2) Did Mr. Joseph offer to bid that shop for Rs. 5,025? What was the action taken upon that offer and what was the order passed thereon?

(3) After the receipt of this offer from Mr. Joseph, did the Excise Commissioner recommend to the Government that the contract for this shop should be given to Mr. Aiyappan Pillai Krishna Pillai for Rs. 4,645?

(4) When was the auction for the opium and ganja shop at Quilon for 1101 confirmed?

(5) How and under what terms is the sale conducted at present in this shop?

(6) Is it Mr. Aiyappan Pillai Krishna Pillai himself who now conducts the sale in this shop?

(7) Why was the contract for this shop given for a lower rental?

(8) (a) When Mr. Joseph of Lakshmivilakam Bungalow presented himself in the Excise Commissioner's office on the 16th Karkatakam 1100 in accordance with the memo issued to him to that effect, did the